

SPORTS ON TRACK AND FIELD.



AROUND THE DIAMOND

Interesting Information Gathered From Sources Near and Afar for the Rotorial.

HARGY DECLINES RICHMOND'S OFFER

He Will Remain With the "Finest" Norfolk Will Play Practice Games With All the Eastern Big Leaguers—The Amateur League Circuit Still Favorably Discussed.

In baseball circles there is little that is new, locally speaking. Norfolk has gotten together an aggregation of crack players and has secured for them a management that is of proven worth. What can be made out of the material thus gathered remains to be seen, but the fans and cranks are of the opinion that a team has been created which, if it doesn't come out a winner, will assuredly hold up this end of the Atlantic League.

The general public will have an opportunity of judging the merits of the players in the early spring, as it can be stated definitely that the management has arranged practice games with all the eastern big league clubs, including Pittsburg.

HARGY'S LUCK. Hargrove, Portsmouth's brilliant center-fielder of last season, now one of Norfolk's "finest," has received a letter from Owner Bradley, of the Richmond team, enclosing him a ticket to come on to Richmond and close a deal at \$150 a month. Hargy has declined for several reasons, one of which being that he is still under contract with the Portsmouth management, which refuses to release or sell him, and the other is that when he joined the police force it was in anticipation of soon becoming a regular. He will, however, keep in condition and just as ready as the unquenchable Miesher should anything turn up.

STILL BEING AGITATED. The question of a six circuit amateur league is still being agitated and apparently the idea is growing in favor as the days pass by. In this connection a letter has been received from "A Rotor," suggesting Mapp, shortstop, First Base, Second Base, and Pitcher Putnam as good players should the Norfolk boys come in. These players are members of the Brambleton team and are good men.

NOTES FROM AFAR. The rotorially inclined will find interesting reading in the notes that follow, gathered from many sources.

FOUND A CRACKJACK

Tim Murnane, the Nestor of baseball writers and a player of note in his generation, was one of the first to predict that Jimmy McJames, formerly of the Virginia League, had that within him which would make him a star in the shape of a brilliant pitching talent. On the first Eastern trip of the Senators, Jimmy replaced Mercer in a game after the latter had been battered freely. Before the inning was half over, Tim, who is almost invariably a base under the highest and most trying conditions, waxed emotional over the stalwart twirler from the realm of the swamp fox. "He has a free-arm swing, speed and a good curve, and if he has got a head he'll win out. Watch him next year," said Tim.

JOYS OF MANAGING THE PHILLIES

Sam Thompson, the famous right fielder of the Philadelphia club, is not as a rule given to work. He had rather knock out a home run than to tell about it, and during the playing season was never known to question an order or criticize his manager. The Detroit News-Tribune evidently caught Sam off his guard, for it reports him saying:

"Unless Stallings is given absolute control of the team, with power to sign, fire and suspend players, he will have a hard row to hoe. Why was Nash a failure? Why was Arthur Irwin turned down? Stallings must have complete control. As soon as players realized that the manager was helpless, and that he was not the boss, they commenced to make life a burden to him. There are some men of the team who would drive a team to ruin. Nash took his orders every day from Colonel Rogers. He was a nonentity. I don't care to renew his contract. If Stallings is given full swing then he will have a chance to make his mark as a manager. If not, his name will be mud before the season is half over. I know Stallings, and wish him every sort of success. He will not find his path strewn with roses, but if he can give Philadelphia a team that will finish well in the race, where it belongs, he will win the laurel."

LOWE WILL NOT QUIT BASEBALL

The following letter has been received in Boston from Second Base man Lowe, of the Boston Club, relative to his retirement to go into the hotel business: "There has been a great deal said in the papers the last week or so about my retiring from baseball to go into the hotel business, with my brother-in-law at New York. I have not received any such telegrams asking for confirmation or denial of this statement. I wish to say that, while it is true, and that we have purchased the hotel and intend to take possession December 12, I have never intended or thought of quitting the diamond. If I had the Boston management would have been notified at the earliest possible moment. I am feeling splendidly, and hope to report in the spring in as fine condition as I ever did in my life."

Since bowling became the "fad" in winter sports there has been considerable discussion as to whether bowling is beneficial to a ball player. Some claim the exercise is too violent and may result in a strain to the arm and back. Kid Nichols believes that bowling is the very best way for a pitcher to keep himself in shape. Nichols claims that the best physicians in the country who have made a study of physical culture induce bowling and recommend it to all players. Nichols says that it trains both eye and arm.

One of the good things to the credit of George Stallings, the new manager of the Philadelphia, says the Chicago Record, is the fact that he was the discoverer of Lange, the Chicago's big out-fielder, who is nearly the star man of the baseball profession at the present time. Stallings is an exceedingly modest fellow, and, inasmuch as the duties of manager of a baseball club requires more or less severity, one might be disposed to doubt Stallings' fitness for the place had he not already shown ability in that line.

There are still plenty of the McFarland family left. One (A. D.) will pitch for Louisville the coming season, but Claude, who managed Norfolk in '96, is not yet engaged for next season, and Horace, the ex-National League umpire, has not yet signed, but will likely be in demand as an umpire in some big league. Either Ben Johnson of President Powers could use him to advantage.

Suit has been brought against the Louisville Baseball Club by F. Drexel, Jr., to recover on three notes for \$200 each, executed by him just before the opening of the season of 1894. These notes were given to raise money as a loan and were discounted in bank. Drexel says he took up the notes, and the club owes him the money. At the time of the transaction Drexel was president of the club.

Manager Billy Sharsig, of the Athletic Baseball Club, is not leaving any grass grow under his feet. He is already beginning to get his team in shape for next year. He has signed Howard Berry, of last season's Rockford Club, Western Association; John C. Rafter, last season with Carbondale and Syracuse, Eastern League, and George Cain, one of Sharsig's last season pitchers.

Al. McFarland, another Louisville boy, will manage a Southern League team, he having signed to manage the club at Savannah. Al. has experience. He managed the club at Little Rock year before last with success. During the past season he played at Norfolk, Va., with his brother, Claude.

John Cocoran, the Detroit shortstop, denies the report that he is on crutches. He says that the injury which he sustained from running a nail in his foot last season is pretty nearly well. His refusal to resign with Detroit is, he says, because the club still owes him for the time lost throughout the accident.

According to the Cincinnati Post, Jack Boyle will be a red-hot next season. The Cincinnati Club wants to give Gray, Holliday and Frank Foreman for Boyle. Just where the Philadelphia Club would be benefited by this trade is hard to tell, and it is quite likely that it will not be made.

Billy Hassamer, who has played with Washington and Louisville, will play ball in Grand Rapids next season. William McCall, of last season's Phillies, has been secured by Charlie Comiskey for the St. Paul team.

The suit of Amos Rusie against the New York Club, recently filed in the United States Circuit Court at Chicago, has been dismissed on the ground of non-jurisdiction, as neither party resided in this district.

John T. Brush says he is undecided as to who will be the manager of the Cincinnati next year. It is said Arthur Irwin would not be averse to accepting the position.

Manager Manning, of the Kansas City team, announced the signing of Frank Cunningham, who played shortstop and left field with the Giants last season.

The chief objection to Buck Ewing in Cincinnati seems to be that he is not in favor of too much young blood. There are many who think as Buck does.

Carney has not yet signed a Philadelphia contract. He is holding out for more money.

Freeman is considering Newport News as a place for the winter training of his Giants.

McGraw got back home Saturday, December 12th. He looks in the best of health.

Rubbers' Rubber's, Rubbers.
 Childs' Rubbers, 1 to 10%.....10c
 Misses' Rubbers, 12 to 20.....12c
 Ladies' Rubbers, 24 to 30.....25c
 Ladies' Tan Rubbers, 24 to 30.....25c
 Boys' Rubbers, 1 to 6.....10c
 Gents' Footbills, 6 to 11.....10c
 Gents' Tan Rubbers, 6 to 11.....10c
 Gents' Pointed Rubbers, 6 to 11.....10c
 Gents' Half Arctics, 6 to 11.....10c
 Gents' Buckle Arctics, 6 to 12.....10c

HELLER'S ONE-PRICE.

46 Bank street, opposite Courthouse.

What President Hoffman
 of the Seaboard Air Line, says: "Mr. J. T. Harris, Harris' Springs, S. C. I will say that in my opinion the Harris Lithia Water is by far the best Lithia water ever used. It has done me a great deal of good, and I think it a most valuable remedy." Sold by M. Dodson, Druggist, Atlantic Hotel, and Burrow, Martin & Co.

HORSES AND HORSEMEN

Notes of the Turf and the Men Who Make Its History.

RILEY GRANNAN WITHDRAWS HIS SUIT.

He May Make of Some a Fair Sized Fortune—A Big Turf Dinner—Passing Mention of Racers—Owners, Jockeys and Some of the Future Events of the Track.

Riley Grannan's Suit. The New York Mail and Express says there seems to be good proof for the statement that Riley Grannan will not push his suit against the Jockey Club. The affidavit taken last week was at the special request of Grannan's counsel, and the writer is informed on competent authority that the end of Grannan's suit is at hand. He has concluded that even with so good a lawyer as General B. F. Tracy he cannot win his case. The Jockey Club will not re-instate Grannan. There will not be any compromise.

It can now be said that the defense of the Jockey Club to Grannan's action was based solely on the racing law of 1885. There is not in the affidavits any attempt to question the honesty of Grannan. The Jockey Club in its answer showed its organization and filed its rules. One of these rules provided that no person, not the employer, should give any bribe or present to the jockey. The affidavits of many persons were obtained to prove that Grannan had violated the rule. The Percy-Gray law provides that the Jockey Club may rule off people who violate the rules of racing, and so Mr. Grannan seems to have been clearly reached without any special effort by the Jockey Club. It is a good thing for racing that no particular scandals were stirred up.

Famous Turf Dinner

The "Sporting Times" of December 5, which is just to hand from London, gives an extended account of the York Gim-crack Club dinner. This is the famous turf dinner of the year.

The Earl of Harrowood and George Spence, the former said he hoped racing could be carried on without betting, but he feared that, with betting suppressed, the public would not support the sport. He advanced the proposition that the stewards of the Jockey Club should discountenance certain persons from betting, and in certain contingencies rule them off the ground. He also held that all jockeys found betting should be excluded in favor of long distance racing, and of a division of the Jockey Club. The distinguished Earl admitted, as a reward of the Jockey Club, that the handicapping could be improved upon, and he conceded that a few new men would help matters. There is an object lesson in this for the stewards of the Jockey Club in New York.

NOTES OF THE TURF.

Whitfield, 2:10, the sensation of '94, has again changed hands. She now belongs to Colonel James A. Lakin, of Westfield, Mass. She showed Charlie Doble a mile better than 2:10, but did not reach her record in any of her races. She is but a five-year-old, so may yet fulfill the promise of her youth.

John Minchin, of Goshen, N. Y., claims to have clipped the first horse ever clipped in Orange county. It was in 1841 and the horse Rippon 2 mile race, 2:07. The only implement used were sheep shears and a comb. In 1846 Mr. Minchin clipped two horses in New York city in the same way.

Louise Wilkes, by Roy Wilkes, has been purchased by Mr. Webster, a former partner of the owner of Star Pointer, 2:02½. Jerry O'Neil trained her as a three-year-old in 1914, and a quarter in 3:12 seconds over his half-mile track at Lexington, Mass.

It is estimated that not over twenty pairs of Hambleton can live out of some 2,000 or so which he sired. Dauntless, Ajax, Strathmore, Egbert, Artillery, Sweepstakes, Kent—all died in 1896.

David A. Snell, owner of Colony, 2:11½, June 23rd, etc., has re-engaged the New Bedford trainer, David La Bouny. It is not decided to campaign any horses next season.

Down-east track managers are preparing to flood and freeze a track for winter racing. Favored with low enough temperature to admit of rendering it a successful venture.

"Jack" Trout, the veterans down-east trainer, will winter in the South. His son Albert trains the horses of the prominent New England breeder Colonel John E. Thayer.

It is said that an offer of \$2,000 was refused recently for Woodshed, 2:10½. What can they expect for him under the hammer. He is to be sold shortly in Boston.

Brooklynites regard Gillette, 2:11½, and Sallie Simmons, 2:13½, as the coming pole team. They are said to match closely and pole satisfactorily together.

On Stanley, by Direct, 2:05½, dam Lily Stanley, 2:17½, (dam of Rokeby, 2:29½, and Colonel Axtell, 2:30) may be

He may be raced as a three-year-old in '97.

Miss Gertrude Williams has been elected secretary of the Bristol County Fair, Taunton, Mass. She is said to be a thoroughly versed expert in her line.

Marguerite (dam of Anworth, 2:15½, King Darlington, 2:16, Marguerite A., 2:20½, and Colonel Axtell, 2:30) may be bred to Leonitas, 2:17½, son of Alcantara.

Benetta, 2:06½; Angle D., 2:07; Hilda, 2:08½; Miss R.R., 2:08½, and Dione, 2:18½, left Lexington last Saturday afternoon for California.

Flying Jib and Miss Margaret are being driven to the pole at Pleasanton, Cal. They are said to be very fine roadsters as a team.

Charming Chimes, 2:17½, by Chimes, went to Copenhagen, with Superintendent Smith, of the Buffalo Driving park last week.

Hinda Rose, 2:09½, as a yearling, 2:19½ at five years old, has produced but one foal. It is by Langton, son of Alfred, 2:25.

"Billy" Andrews is of the opinion that old Mascot, 2:04, has a race or two left and may secure him to campaign in 1897.

"General" Turner may let his son do all the driving another season, directing operations from the ground.

It is rumored that George Spear, of Sphinxetta fame, is to drive for the Hubingers next season.

Rather is wintering the fast Alcantara horse Mahlon, 2:13½, and may trot him next season.

Baron Wilkes, 2:18, has at fourteen years, twelve trotters in the 2:20 list and six pacers in the 2:15 list.

Jupe, 2:13½, after securing so fast a record, should have been started against Arion's 2:10½.

Old J. B. Richardson, 2:16½, still retains a creditable amount of speed at nineteen years of age.

Hazel Wilkes, 2:11½, won first prize in her class at the San Francisco horse show.

James L., 2:09½, won but a single race in '96, but at that he foots up \$3,475.

Star Pointer has beaten Robert J. the majority of their engagements.

Onward leads living sires as to 2:20 performers to his credit.

Rumps, 2:08½, is to go the way of the auction at Boston shortly.

Andrews has definitely decided to train a public stable in 1897.

Walter S., 2:12½, won \$3,400 last season with Charlie Lyons.

Electioneer's 2:20 list now numbers forty.

Another Six Day's Race.

with the nine men who finished next to him, will contest in a six day's bicycle race in Washington, D. C., commencing Monday afternoon, December 28, at 2 o'clock. As far as possible the contest will be arranged on the grounds of the Madison Square Garden race.

The race will be for a purse of \$2,000, divided into five prizes, the first being \$1,000. The Washington race will not be a go-as-you-please affair, but the cyclists will ride eight hours a day for six days, making a forty-eight hour race.

It is quite possible that despite the announced wish of Chief Consul Potter, who may be elected president of the League of American Wheelmen at its coming National Assembly, the important incident took place in Boston, which bears upon the contest.

At a meeting of the Press Cycling club, which is the largest and most influential club in New England, resolutions were adopted protesting against the action of the board of officers of the Massachusetts division, instructing delegates to vote for the re-election of Sterling Elliott for president for the coming year, and favoring the election of L. B. Potter, of New York.

The League of American Wheelmen members have long been at war in the Bay State, and, although Elliott was endorsed at the annual meeting of the State Board of Officers, it is quite possible that he will not get a majority of the votes in his contest for the Presidency, and quite probable that he will not get a number.

Don't try to catch the handle bar with your teeth. Don't look around to see if this fellow is following. Don't be surprised if the front wheel shows a disposition to turn in a hard and down for a rest. Always fall on your right shoulder and do not let your car straddle the curb. When you lose a pedal don't get off and go back and look for it. It's there on the machine still, and if you'll look for it long enough you'll find it again. Should you find a runaway horse on your trail keep close to the curb until he has passed. Then make a spurt and seize him by the tail and put on the brake. Never kill a pedestrian when it can be avoided, but when you do kill one dismount and say you're sorry.—The Hub.

Invading New Fields.

It is necessary for wheelmen to take some precautions before stowing away their wheels for the winter. Often they are left in a cold, damp place, and when spring comes the spokes and other parts are found to be rusted. Some riders do not clear away their machines once during

Saks and Santa Claus are Partners

In effort to make this holiday season the merriest of the merry. The broad branches of this great tree of wardrobe supply—ever green with richest values—are bowed down within reach of the shortest purse—by a matchless stock sensible, serviceable gifts.

THE PRINCE OF PRESENTS IS A SMOKING JACKET.

Or a Bath Blanket. You stand before the best and biggest stock in town at our counters: all exclusive creations that were made up expressly to our order. We have exerted ourselves to surpass any previous holiday offering of these handy house coats, and the entire assortment from beginning to end sparkles with special values at special prices.

Three Leaders

Tricot, Velvet, Corduroy, Silk, and Reversible Smoking Jackets—\$3.50 to \$5.00.

English Elderdown Jackets, in the newest colorings, bound in velvet, frogs. Special price..... \$4.48

Handsome Imported Cheviots, with red frogs, and self-lining. Special value at \$4.50

Mixed Blue, Black, and Garnet Tricot jackets, edged with silk, and fastening with frogs. Special price..... \$4.98

Elderdown Bath Robes—new pattern—\$1.50 to \$3.50.

Selections made now will be delivered at any time desired.

Gift Suspenders.

Three lots easy to buy, but difficult to match. Famously Embroidered Suspenders, every pair in separate class box..... 23c

Fancy Silk Web Suspenders, braided ends, drawer attachments, each pair in glass box..... 23c

All silk Suspenders, handsome colorings, each pair in glass box..... 48c

The best all silk Suspenders, with Sterling Silver mountings—in fancy boxes—\$2.48, \$2.98, and \$3.48.

Gift Handkerchiefs.

Just as good quality as we could buy—the best that you can give—two dozen in linen and one in silk.

Men's Linen Initial Handkerchiefs—fine quality—six in a box..... \$1.00

Men's Pure Linen Initial Handkerchiefs—six in a box..... 25c

Men's Japanese Silk Initial Handkerchiefs—regular size, fine quality—six in a box..... 50c

Other grades of Japanese Silk—\$2.00, \$2.50, and \$3.00.

Gift Umbrellas.

A big variety of styles—new and unique. Two special lots at "close" prices.

For \$100.00 we have 100 English Twill Silk Umbrellas, mounted in red, natural handles, with sterling silver name plate, initials engraved. Each close roll. Worth \$2.00..... \$2.65

Union Taffeta Umbrellas, close roll, mounted in sterling silver, mounted, natural handles. \$1.89

The best in the world. Saks' Full Plumed Sewed Dogskin Gloves, in all shades. Also Mocha and Suedes—equal of any \$1.25 98c

Pleasure lined Dogskin Gloves, with or without fur tops—all sizes—\$1.00 and \$1.18.

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Gift Canes.

All the nobby and staple sticks—fancy and domestic woods—crack and straight handles—plain and sterling silver trimmed, 98c, 98c, \$1.25 and \$1.48.

Gift Neckwear.

Nobody knows better than the men folk what handsome neckwear suits is—the handsome that wears as well as it looks. Unusually large styles for holiday choosing. Two leaders—Your choice of Ascots, Imperials, Ties, Puffs, Band Bows, and Club ties, in the very richest light and dark effects. The usual 75c. 48c

Choice of all shapes in an exclusive variety of patterns—light and dark effects. Special values..... 98c

Gift Mufflers.

Men's Silk Mufflers, ample in size, fashionable in shades, and rare offering, for..... 98c

Sweaters.

Boys' All Wool Navy Blue, Maroon and Tan Sweaters, worth \$1.75—Monday only..... \$1.00

Men's All Wool Turtle Neck Sweaters, with stripes on collar, cuffs, and button—Navy Blue, White, Royal Blue and White—Crimson and White—and Navy Blue and Orange, worth \$2.25

Initials Engraved Free on all Gold and Silver trimmed Umbrellas and Canes. We're not stingy with our fancy boxes. Goods bought now will be delivered at any time before Christmas.

SAKS & COMPANY,

234 MAIN STREET.

the year. But it is absolutely necessary for them to do it before they stow away the wheels for the winter. Take every part and then clean it thoroughly. Clean the chain till there is not a particle of grit left. Then grease every link with vasoline and wrap them in a greasy cloth. The result will be that in the spring every nut and bolt will go in place as clean as a whistle and the bicycle will seem like a new wheel.

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a bicycle, was first in at the death and won the trophy. It is further asserted that this is the first occasion on which a bicycle has beaten a field of brush huns.

Linton has advised the American Wheelman to arrange a match with Michael for him. With his preference, John is included in the openers, while John authorizes, but the referee breaker at present is under the ban of suspension from the racing board. Michael will go to Linton in a series of three events for \$5,000.

Wants a Match Arranged

Tommy Ryan is very much in demand these days. On December 21 he is matched against Billy McCarthy, before the Empire Athletic Club, of Boston, on the 23rd against Billy Pedne, of Philadelphia, before the Syracuse Empire Club, and besides the offer to match him against young Corbett Green, the Greater New York Club wants him to face Tommy West. Tommy will be a step in the right direction and will not only encourage the breeding of horses which mature slowly, and therefore become greater three year olds, but will help to discourage the breeding of horses for short dashes only. All the legislation and new stakes are tending toward the encouragement of producing a higher class of animals, with more bottom and greater endurance, and this is what the turf needs for its improvement.

A New \$25,000 Stake

Club has been working on the event and it is said will announce it in January. The stake will be guaranteed by the club and will be either \$20,000 or